

WASHINGTON – With Congressman Jim Costa’s vote, the House of Representatives passed the President’s bipartisan compromise to extend tax cuts benefiting Valley families and businesses. The legislation now moves to the President’s desk where it will be signed into law. Costa, who had pushed both political parties to support the plan, released the following statement in response:

“After months of partisan bickering, I am pleased that Congress has extended these important tax cuts. A failure to act would have left countless Valley families and businesses out in the cold.

“Looking ahead, the American people want to see two things. First, they want to see an end to the election year tactics of both parties. With too many politicians focused more on trading jabs than doing the work of the people, the tax cut debate showed Washington at its worst. Enough is enough. We can’t move our economy forward unless members of both parties leave the campaign politics behind.

“Americans also want Congress to get serious about putting our fiscal house back in order. From discretionary spending caps to performance based budgeting, my colleagues in the Blue Dog Coalition and I continue to bring solutions to the table. Many of our proposals were included in the Deficit Commission’s report. Congress must take the Commission’s recommendations seriously and work together on this issue.”

Background

While some Members of Congress vowed to oppose the tax cut deal on political grounds, Costa repeatedly called on both Republicans and Democrats to set aside partisan talking points to send a deal to the President’s desk. If Congress had failed to act, Americans would have seen their taxes go up on January 1st.

For months, Costa pushed for a compromise similar to the one passed by Congress today. In

September, Costa joined a group of his colleagues in calling on the House leadership to temporarily extend all income tax rates.